

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments, see pp. 8-12, filed 7/26/11, with respect to claims 1-12 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejections of claims 1-12 has been withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-12 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
4. The examiner agrees with the arguments filed on 07/26/2011. The prior art of record does not teach all the features or reasonably suggest the combined of features as claimed in the independent claims 1, 7, and 8.
5. Claims 2-6 and 9-12, are allowable because they depend on claim 1.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Lindemann et al., US 2004/0223622 A1 (previously cited), teaches a digital wireless loudspeaker system with enabling of different speaker modes (see ¶ 0064-0066);

Imadate, US 2004/0190726 A1 (previously cited), teaches a switching circuit to switch to a quasi-stereo mode when a mono signal is input (see ¶ 0006 and figure 3); and

Thagard et al., US 6,215,737 B1 (previously cited), teaches a multi-channel digital audio with different multiple resolutions for channels or groups of channels (see abstract, column 2, lines 33-67, and figure 1).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DANIEL SELLERS whose telephone number is (571)272-7528. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday, 10 am to 7:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Davetta W. Goins can be reached on (571)272-2957. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Daniel R. Sellers/
Examiner, Art Unit 2614

/DAVETTA W. GOINS/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2614